

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 have been examined. Claims 1-16 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claim 17 is allowed.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,712,137 to Kadekodi et al. (“Kadekodi”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,166,831 to Boyd et al. (“Boyd”).

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadekodi in view of Boyd.

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 1 recites that the rows of image sensing elements are arranged in parallel at a pitch equivalent to four times the height of the image sensing element. Such recitation is analogous to the allowable subject matter recited in claim 17.

Since neither Boyd nor Kadekodi disclose the above feature, and the Examiner has already indicated that such feature is allowable, Applicant submits that claim 1 is now patentable over the cited references, and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, Applicant has canceled claim 17, without prejudice or disclaimer, to avoid a “duplicative claim” objection from the Examiner.

B. Claims 2, 3 and 4

Since claims 2, 3 and 4 are dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kadekodi in view of Boyd and U.S. Patent No. 0663763A2 to Philbrick E.P. Publication (“Philbrick”).

Claims 5-8 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadekodi in view of Boyd and Philbrick. However, since claims 5-8 and 18 are dependent upon claim 1, and Philbrick fails to cure the deficient teachings of Kadekodi and Boyd, in regard to claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 5-8 and 18 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kadekodi in view of Boyd and U.S. Patent No. 5,859,712 to Kim (“Kim”).

Claims 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadekodi in view of Boyd and Kim.

A. Claim 9

Since claim 9 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, and Kim fails to cure the deficient teachings of Kadekodi and Boyd, Applicant submits that claim 9 is patentable over the cited references for at least analogous reasons as set forth above.

B. Claims 10-12

Since claims 10-12 are dependent upon claim 9, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kadekodi, Boyd, Kim and Philbrick.

Claims 13-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kadekodi in view of Boyd, Kim and Philbrick.

Since claims 13-16 are dependent upon claim 9, and Philbrick fails to cure the deficient teachings of Kadekodi, Boyd and Kim, in regard to claim 9, Applicant submits that claims 13-16 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

V. Allowable Subject Matter

As noted above, the Examiner has indicated that claim 17 contains allowable subject matter. However, Applicant has canceled claim 17, without prejudice or disclaimer, to avoid a “duplicative claim” objection from the Examiner.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No.: 09/335,518

Attorney Docket No.: Q54021

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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